

## PREVIEW

### from *Beowulf*

Translated by Burton Raffel

**Summary** The Danes are plagued by a monster named Grendel (GREN dul). Beowulf and his men, the Geats (GAY atz), set out to rid the Danes of this monster. Beowulf sets a trap for the monster, and he mortally wounds him. Grendel escapes to his lair beneath a lake. Beowulf travels to Grendel's lair and battles Grendel's mother. He wins by seizing the monster's sword and cutting off both Grendel's and his mother's heads. Beowulf rules Geatland for fifty years. In his final battle, he faces a fierce dragon. Beowulf is aided by Wiglaf. The dragon is slain, but Beowulf is mortally wounded. With his dying words, he asks Wiglaf to care for his people and to build a tower to house his ashes.



#### Note-taking Guide

A lot of action takes place in the epic *Beowulf*. To keep track of what happens, use the story map below.

**Setting:**

**Problem:**

**Goal:**

Event 1:

Event 2:

Event 3:

Event 4:

**Climax:**

**Resolution:**